

What is claimed is:

1. A sole for an article of footwear to be used on a granular surface comprising, in combination:

a sole having an upper surface and a lower surface;

a peripheral lip projecting downwardly and outwardly from the lower surface; and

a plurality of fins projecting downwardly from the lower surface.

2. The sole of claim 1, wherein some of the fins are angled rearwardly from the lower surface.

3. The sole of claim 1, wherein all of the fins are angled rearwardly from the lower surface.

4. The sole of claim 1, wherein some of the fins are angled forwardly from the lower surface.

5. The sole of claim 1, further comprising an inner lip projecting downwardly and outwardly from the lower surface, spaced inwardly of the peripheral lip such that a recess is formed between the peripheral lip and the inner lip, the inner lip extending around a heel portion of the sole.

6. The sole of claim 5, wherein a portion of the recess is filled.
7. The sole of claim 1, wherein the sole is formed of a compressible material.
8. The sole of claim 7, wherein the compressible material is ethyl vinyl acetate.
9. The sole of claim 1, wherein outer edges of the fins are angled inwardly from the lower surface.
10. The sole of claim 1, further comprising a slit formed in a toe portion of the sole, the slit extending from a front edge of the sole toward a heel portion of the sole.
11. The sole of claim 10, wherein the slit is positioned between a portion of the sole configured to support a big toe of a wearer and a portion of the sole configured to support a second toe of a wearer.
12. The sole of claim 10, wherein a plurality of the fins positioned rearwardly of the slit comprise a first segment and a second segment spaced apart from one another by a gap.
13. The sole of claim 12, wherein the gap is aligned with the slit.

14. The sole of claim 1, further comprising a plurality of grooves formed in a lower surface of the peripheral lip.

15. The sole of claim 1, further comprising a plurality of indentations formed in an outer edge peripheral lip.

16. The sole of claim 1, further comprising
a pair of lateral indentations formed in a lateral edge of the forward portion of the sole;
a pair of medial indentations formed in a medial edge of the forward portion of the sole;
and
a pair of transverse gaps separating, each transverse gap extending between a lateral indentation and an opposed medial indentation and spacing apart the fins positioned forwardly of the corresponding lateral and medial indentations.

17. The sole of claim 1, wherein at least one of the fins extends substantially parallel to a longitudinal axis of the sole.

18. The sole of claim 1, wherein the sole is formed of a first portion and a second portion, the fins being part of the first portion and the peripheral lip being part of the second portion.

19. The sole of claim 18, wherein the first portion has a different color than the second portion.

20. The sole of claim 18, wherein the first portion is formed of a first material and the second portion is formed of a second material different than the first material.

21. An article of footwear for granular surfaces comprising, in combination:
an upper; and
a sole secured to the upper, having a peripheral lip projecting downwardly and outwardly and a plurality of downwardly projecting fins.

22. The article of footwear of claim 21, wherein some of the fins are angled rearwardly from the sole.

23. The article of footwear of claim 21, wherein all of the fins are angled rearwardly from the sole.

24. The article of footwear of claim 21, wherein some of the fins are angled forwardly from the sole.

25. The article of footwear of claim 21, further comprising an inner lip projecting downwardly and outwardly from the sole, and spaced inwardly of the peripheral lip such that a recess is formed between the peripheral lip and the inner lip, the inner lip extending around a heel portion of the sole.

26. The article of footwear of claim 25, wherein a portion of the recess is filled.

27. The article of footwear of claim 21, wherein the sole is formed of a compressible material.

28. The article of footwear of claim 27, wherein the compressible material is ethyl vinyl acetate.

29. The article of footwear of claim 21, wherein outer edges of the fins are angled inwardly from the sole.

30. The article of footwear of claim 21, further comprising a slit formed in a toe portion of the sole, the slit extending from a front edge of the sole toward a heel portion of the sole.

31. The article of footwear of claim 30, wherein the slit is positioned between a portion of the sole configured to support a big toe of a wearer and a portion of the sole configured to support a second toe of a wearer.

32. The article of footwear of claim 30, wherein a plurality of the fins positioned rearwardly of the slit comprise a first segment and a second segment spaced apart from one another by a gap

33. The article of footwear of claim 32, wherein the gap is aligned with the slit.

34. The article of footwear of claim 21, further comprising a plurality of grooves formed in a lower surface of the peripheral lip.

35. The article of footwear of claim 21, further comprising a plurality of indentations formed in an outer edge peripheral lip.

36. The article of footwear of claim 21, further comprising
a pair of lateral indentations formed in a lateral edge of the forward portion of the sole;
a pair of medial indentations formed in a medial edge of the forward portion of the sole;
and

a pair of transverse gaps separating, each transverse gap extending between a lateral indentation and an opposed medial indentation and spacing apart the fins positioned forwardly of the corresponding lateral and medial indentations.

37. The article of footwear of claim 21, wherein at least one of the fins extends substantially parallel to a longitudinal axis of the sole.

38. The article of footwear of claim 21, wherein the sole is formed of a first portion and a second portion, the fins being part of the first portion and the peripheral lip being part of the second portion.

39. The sole of claim 38, wherein the first portion has a different color than the second portion.

40. The sole of claim 38, wherein the first portion is formed of a first material and the second portion is formed of a second material different than the first material.

41. A sole for an article of footwear to be used on a granular surface comprising, in combination:

a sole of compressible material having an upper surface and a lower surface;

a peripheral lip projecting downwardly and outwardly from the lower surface;

a plurality of grooves formed in a lower surface of the peripheral lip in a forward portion of the sole;

an inner lip projecting downwardly and outwardly from the lower surface around a heel portion of the sole, and spaced inwardly of the peripheral lip such that a recess is formed between the peripheral lip and the inner lip, a portion of the recess being filled with the compressible material;

a slit formed in a toe portion of the sole, the peripheral lip forming opposed walls of the slit, the slit being positioned between a portion of the sole configured to support a big toe of a wearer and a portion of the sole configured to support a second toe of a wearer;

a plurality of transversely extending fins projecting downwardly and rearwardly from the lower surface of the sole, the slit dividing some of the fins into first and second segments spaced apart from one another by a longitudinal gap, the longitudinal gap being aligned with the slit;

a pair of lateral indentations formed in a lateral edge of the forward portion of the sole;

a pair of medial indentations formed in a medial edge of the forward portion of the sole;

and

a pair of transverse gaps separating, each transverse gap extending between a lateral indentation and an opposed medial indentation and spacing apart the fins positioned forwardly of the corresponding lateral and medial indentations.